

# I nclude Me ☺

## Child care for children and youth with special needs\*

### About the I nclusive Child Care Subcommittee

Our Vision: In communities throughout Washington State, all children, youth and families are valued and have access to quality, inclusive child care\* offered by providers who are fully supported by coordinated resources from all sectors of society.

Our Mission: To increase access to quality, inclusive child care\* and out-of-school time programs for children and youth throughout Washington State.

\*I nclusive Child Care is child care, early learning and out-of-school time programs that include children and youth (infants to age 18) with disabilities, special health care needs, and challenging behaviors together with their peers with typical development.

In order to achieve our mission, the I nclusive Child Care Subcommittee is working with public and private partners statewide to:

- ❖ Provide a forum for exchanging information, discussing inclusive child care policy issues and developing implementation strategies.
- ❖ Educate and influence policymakers, the child care community, parents, and the public about quality, inclusive child care.
- ❖ I ncrease community organizing in order to promote access to quality, inclusive child care.
- ❖ I ncrease availability of training, technical assistance, consultation and mentoring to promote quality, inclusive child care.
- ❖ I ncrease availability of and access to funding that supports quality, inclusive child care.
- ❖ I ncrease availability of valid, reliable data that documents the needs of parents and the child care community, and the progress and outcomes of inclusive child care efforts.

The Inclusive Child Care Subcommittee is subgroup of the Child Care Coordinating Committee and the State Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families. It meets monthly, except for August and December, usually in Kent. Meeting minutes and the strategic plan are available at the Child Care Coordinating Committee web site <[www.ccccwa.org](http://www.ccccwa.org)>. The Developmental Disabilities Council also maintains an inclusive child care electronic group list of over 70 people.

Inclusive Child Care Subcommittee Participants Include:

Child care providers (family, center, school age)  
Children's Hospital, Center for Children with Special Needs and Chronic Conditions  
Department of Health, Office of Children with Special Health Care Needs  
Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS),  
- Division of Child Care and Early Learning, headquarters staff and child care  
licensors  
- Division of Developmental Disabilities, Infant Toddler Early Intervention  
Program  
- Mental Health Division  
Developmental Disabilities Council  
Local child care resource & referral program  
Local health jurisdictions, child care health consultants  
North Sound Regional Support Network  
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Parents of children with special needs  
Washington Association for the Education of Young Children (WAEYC)  
Washington State Child Care Resource & Referral Network

For More Information:

- ❖ Visit our web page at the Child Care Care Coordinating Committee's web site:  
[http://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/dcccl/cccc\\_inclusive.shtml](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/dcccl/cccc_inclusive.shtml)
- ❖ Contact Tory Clarke Henderson, Washington State Developmental Disabilities  
Council, at (800) 634-4473 or [toryh@cted.wa.gov](mailto:toryh@cted.wa.gov)

\* Special Needs = Disabilities, Special Health Care Needs, and challenging behaviors (any child or youth, infant to age 18, for whom extra support is needed in order to be able to be included in a child care or out-of-school time program)